# Journal of Numismatic ..... Fine Arts





# NUMISMATIC LITERATURE

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### EDITORIAL

There are some very interesting coins listed in this issue of the JOURNAL OF NUMISMATIC FINE ARTS. One of the nicest offerings of Roman Contorniates head the offerings. Some nice Greek silver coins plus a fascinating hoard of fractional silver pieces found at Gaza highlight the selections. Neophyte collectors will welcome the "beginner's bargains." For those collectors who will miss seeing antiquities in this catalogue, we urge our readers to write for a special pre-Christmas list of artifacts from the ancient world.

For the bibliophile we call attention to a listing of some important, hard-to-get numismatic literature. (We also maintain a good stock of in print books and suggest that collectors send their book requests in to us.)

Editor — JOEL L. MALTER

# JOURNAL OF NUMISMATIC FINE ARTS

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NUMISMATIC LITERATURE
FOR SALE Inside Front Cover

MILITARY STANDARDS OF
THE ROMAN LEGIONS
by Betsy Davison \_\_\_\_\_\_\_160



#### ABOUT THE COVER

The coin pictured on the cover is a bronze as cast in Luceria c. 290 B.C. This beautifully preserved piece is for sale, price on request.

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## MILITARY STANDARDS OF THE ROMAN LEGIONS

(PART IV)

by Betsy Davison

Leaving the realm of controversy, there is no doubt about another emblem of authority which really did go into battle with the legions: the very ancient fasces. Neither completely military nor entirely civilian, these archaic rods and axes belonged to both the peacetime magistrates and the wartime commanders, titles which were often interchangeable. They shared a great many functions with the standards and may be classified as a type of insignia.

Livy has made the chilling observation that Hannibal captured a larger number of fasces from dead Roman generals than were carried at any given moment before all the magistrates of Rome. Hannibal treated these emblems as spoils of war and had them borne before him with pride. He knew they stood for the might of the Republic, conveying as they did the power of imperium. (This is a complicated term whose meaning fluctuated during the centuries of Rome's existence, but its origin was in the absolute power of the kings, which was transferred to the consuls, who delegated it further as the administration of the country became more involved.) Since, in essence, any official who was preceded by a fasces was a direct representative of the consul, sometimes to the point of being authorized to stand in his stead, the military quality of the insignia can be appreciated. It consisted of a long-handled axe whose haft was encased in rods of birch or elm, the whole bound around with red leather straps. Despite the fact that they went into the field with a consul who was functioning as Commander-in-Chief of the legions, they were never carried by soldiers, as standards were, but always by special bearers called lictors.

Like so many other Roman institutions, the fasces came from the Etruscans, to whom it represented the overpowering strength of their kings. Its very design alluded to the power of life and death which the monarchy held over the people, who had no appeal whatever. One of the lictor's duties, aside from functioning as both bodyguard and messenger, was to act as summary executioner at the king's command. He was served by twelve of these attendants, who represented the twelve communities within his realm.

When Romulus established Rome, he adopted the Etruscan purple tunic, the curile chair, the eagle-tipped sceptre — and the fasces. Twelve of them, carried on the left shoulders of twelve lictors, to indicate that his authority was no less than that of the neighboring monarch. The death of Romulus led to so much confusion among the people —

and so many power-squabbles within the Senate that a new custom was created to cope with it. According to Livy, who has marvelously logical explanations for almost every facet of early Roman history, the Senate finally decided to rule itself temporarily, until another king could be chosen. This set the precedent for the interregnum, or period of adjustment between kings. The hundred Senators grouped themselves into ten decuries, each of which chose a president, and these ten presidents formed the government. Only one of them at a time was allowed the twelve fasces, which - as interrex — he held for five days and then passed on to another of the ten. Thus the power of absolute rule rested with only one Senator at a time, and was rotated among the members of this first Board of Ten.



Arranged in somewhat unorthodox procession, this famous little parade is on a coin issued by a young moneyer named Brutus, who in later years became better known as one of the assassins of Julius Caesar. As was customary on late Repulican denarii, this scene was chosen to point up the ancestry of the issuing magistrate, who claimed descent from Rome's first consul, Lucius Junius Brutus. (There was a second consul serving with course, but it was Brutus who took the 'rods' initially and died before it was time to pass them over to his colleague.) Young Brutus's claim is said to be bogus, since the consul had to order the exeuction of both his sons for treason - a sentence carried out, incidentally, by the lictors-thereby leaving no male heirs to pass down the name. On coins, as on stone reliefs, the most important figure in a group is always portrayed as the largest, which no doubt accounts for the order-of-march here, putting the ancient Brutus in a roomier spot between his lictors rather than behind them, as tradition demanded. Technically the accensus was the attendant of the consul serving without the fasces, and has no place in the lead here. He was probably added as a symbol of consular dignity, and is certainly a welcome docu-mentary detail. (Sydenham 906; Roman Silver Coins: Junia 32, p. 47.)

When the people abolished the monarchy and set up a republican form of government, they kept almost all the trappings of kingship except the crown, which was used only during military triumphs. These included the fasces, but again — even with two consuls ruling the country — only one set of insignia and lictors was permitted. By mutual consent, or by lot, one consul had the "rods" first, then — at an appointed time — relinquished them to his colleague. Each of the highest magistrates was allowed a certain number of fasces as a token of rank. Strict rules governed this distribution, which sometimes varied with place and rank-within-rank. The consuls, decemvirs, and military tribunes had twelve; each of these magistrates, in one way or another and at one time or another, occupied the position of ruler.

The particular military tribunes mentioned in this context were not the same as the later officers of the legion, but were elected — usually in groups of three or four, but sometimes as many as eight to fill the rank of "Military Tribune with consular powers," and actually replaced the consuls for the year they held office. They seem to be the products of either the need for more than two commanders in the field at one time or of a fit of pique on the part of the plebeian Tribunes, who used their power of veto to block consular elections when they were annoyed with the patrician element. A military tribunate of this type was the first important office opened to the common class, and was their only opportunity to install one of their own in a position of real power. Instituted in 444 B.C., this substitute rank was offered by the Senate as a sop to the plebeian protests over being barred from outright consulship. The arrangement lasted until 367 B.C., and is commented on very casually, as though the distinction between rulers was slight as long as they had been duly elected. At one point, just before the Gallic invasion of 390 B.C., Livy reports that military tribunes had been at the head of the government for fifteen consecutive years. It is easy to understand why they were awarded twelve fasces.

Decemviri, described in the Dictionary of Classical Antiquities as a collegium of ten officers or commissioners, existed for a variety of purposes. One such group, already mentioned, governed during an interregnum. A permanent board of priests, Decemviri Sacris Faciundis, interpreted the Sibylline books; ten judges formed the Decemviri Litibus Iudicandis, and others were created as the need arose. One of the earliest was the Decemviri Legibus Scribundis, who were chosen in 451 B.C. to preside over Rome for a year while they committed the laws of the country to a permanent written form. These emerged, after some travail, as the Twelve Tables, inscribed in bronze. The original board was a resounding success, ruling wisely and producing the first ten Tables. However, the same law which installed them limited their term of office to a single year, at the end of which a new board was elected.

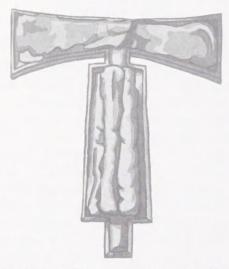
The second board, in direct contrast to the first, quickly showed itself to be made up of power-hungry men dedicated to oppression, against whom the entire Republic eventually rebelled. The point of interest here centers around the fasces: while the first group of law-makers had willingly obeyed the rule stating that only one of their number could have the honor of the twelve fasces at a time, the second board was not content with this. One of the more terrifying gestures of their time in office was to appear suddenly in the Forum with a small army of one hundred and twenty lictors, twelve for each of them. Inside the rods were the dreaded axes the secures - later banned from the fasces when carried within the city of Rome. There were only two exceptions to this ruling: consuls were allowed the secures when they left the city to join the legions, and a military dictator had the privilege at all times, in the city or out of it.

This same dictator, appointed for a maximum term of six months as supreme commander in a time of national emergency, was allotted twenty-four fasces, since he represented both consuls. (This jump in number was caused by an unexplained change in government policy, which is recorded but not elaborated on. The clearest comments available may be found in the Dictionary of Classical Antiquities, which states that the first lictors of the Republic the original twelve of the monarchy - walked in front of the consul who was at that time conducting the country's business. The other consul was attended by an accensus, or escort, who bore no insignia of office. At some point — "in later times" - each consul was permitted a full compliment of lictors, twelve of whom walked before the functioning magistrate and twelve walked behind his colleague.) While some historians put the date of the first dictatorship at 501 B.C., Livy prefers a few years later, placing the appointment about two years before the batle of Lake Regillus (496 B.C.). The oldest authorities Livy could find named the exconsul Titus Lartius as holder of this command, with Spurius Cassius as his Master of Horse. Their procession through the streets was preceded by "the ceremonial axes," but nobody mentions the number. The last military dictator was appointed in 206 B.C., followed by an official of "dictatorial rank" who served not as a commander but as the producer of games, or religious festivities, in 202 B.C. For the record, historians discount the activities of Sulla and Caesar as anti-Republican and unconstitutional. Just in case there were lingering hopes in any ambitious mind, Marcus Antonius sponsored a law, passed in 44 B.C., forever abolishing the

The dictator's Master of Horse (magister equitum) was his second-in-command and received six fasces,

as did the propraetors and proconsuls who served outside the city. However, a proconsul - from the time of Augustus - who had actually been a consul, was permitted twelve while he was within the boundaries of Rome itself. Quaestors had an imperium, since they served as tax collectors and custodians of the government treasury in Rome, but later when they functioned as aides to Imperial legates in the provinces, they had the same fasces as the governor himself. Praetors, or judges, of the city had two. After 42 B.C., the flamen Dialis and the Vestal Virgins were each allowed one lictor, but this was not intended to imply the imperium of military command. Rather, it had to do with the much more ancient power of life and death held by the kings. The flamen Dialis, as the priest of Jupiter, ranked directly under the Pontifex Maximus, with tremendous power to match this position. The Vestal Virgins, keepers of the flame which served as Rome's official hearth, possessed many of the privileges enjoyed by the priests and a few that exceeded all other authority in Rome. The consul himself made way before a Vestal's lictor, and even the Tribunes of the people dared not defy her intercession or lay a hand on her person, the latter offense punishable by death. An example of this may be found in the story of Appius Claudius Pulcher, who was determined to celebrate a military triumph in 143 B.C., despite having had his request for one voted down by the people. His daughter, the Vestal Virgin Claudia, walked in the procession beside her father's chariot, escorted him up the steps to the temple of Jupiter on the Capitol, and stood between him and the Tribunes who wanted to halt the ceremony. (Suetonius tells substantially the same tale, except that he claimed it was the brother of Claudia, rather than the father, who insisted on a triumph.)

During the Republic, a commander who had been hailed as Imperator (a title conferred either by acclamation of the troops in the field or by a decree of the Senate and People) was authorized to crown his fasces with wreaths of bay. This custom had evolved from the usage of the term imperator as the designation for any military leader possessing in imperium, or the right to lead a command. Later, it became an honor bestowed on a general after his first important victory; finally, it came to denote any commander-in-chief who had achieved a great victory for Rome, and was usually followed by a triumph. (By law, however, the victory had to be earned by a single battle in which at least 5,000 of the enemy had been slain.) The ritual carried over into the Empire, but was soon claimed by the Emperor himself, on the theory that since he was supreme commander all victories were won in his name. Augustus granted several such titles to his military leaders, but with some reluctance. Tiberius was equally jealous of shared glory, and it was in his reign that the last general received such an honor from a Roman emperor. In 22 A.D. Junius Blaesus, then governor of Africa, succeeded in defeating the Numidian Tacfarinus, an ex-soldier in the auxiliary army of Rome, who had taught his men to fight as the Romans did and who equipped them with copies of legionary weapons. The skirmishes between Tacfarinus and various representatives of the Empire were of several years standing. Tiberius had already granted Furius Camillus a triumph in 17 A.D. as a reward for quelling the Numidians, but he now allowed Blaesus to be named Imperator and authorized a triumph for him. As an ironic sequel to this episode, Tacfarinus rested and resupplied - returned to harrass the Romans anew, but was finally killed in battle by a later Roman governor, Cornelius Dolabella. Though it was he who actually brought hostilities to a genuine close, Tiberius denied him a triumph. None was ever granted to a field commander again. "Imperator" was thereafter a title assumed by an emperor when he became ruler, and it was his alone. He was attended by twelve fasces laureati, testifying to his position as Commander-in-Chief.



In his book on Italian archaeology, Mute Stones Speak, Paul MacKendrick offers what may be the earliest physical evidence of the Etruscan origin of the fasces. One of the important finds at Velulonia was this double-headed iron axe with its bundle of iron "rods" surrounding the handle, which was discovered in the Tomb of the Lictor. Meant as a decoration on the grave of a man who carried such an emblem in life, rather than as an actual fasces, the choice of material was made more for durability than realism. Silius Italicus, Roman epic poet of the first century, also refers to Velulonia as the source of the fasces, drawing his information from older historians, such as Polybius.

The lictors who carried the fasces of early Rome were a specially chosen corps of freedmen comprising three decuriae under ten presidents. The

first decuria provided lictors for the two consuls, and the other city magistrates chose theirs from the remaining two groups. Officials in the provinces had no established pool to draw from and were authorized to procure their own lictors, sometimes freeing favorite slaves for the position. This system must have applied only to the later Republic, however, since Suetonius states that in the time of Appius "and for some time afterward" the term of freedman signified only the freeborn sons of released slaves and not to the manumitted men themselves.

There was another decuria apart from the first three, composed of thirty lictores curiati, who had varied duties. They served as attendants at public sacrifices; provided from their number the one lictor each allowed the flamen Dialis and the Vestal Virgins; and summoned the Comitia Curiata, which gave them their name.

When the lictors appeared in their primary function, as attendants of consuls and magistrates, they walked before their man in single file, the fasces with or without an axe, as the law dictated - carried on their left shoulders. The only formality in their order of march seems to have involved the lictor directly in front of the dignitary: he was known as the lictor proximus, and was superior in rank to the others. Whenever the officials appeared in public they were led by their lictors, who cleared a path through the crowded streets ahead of them. Roman matrons and the Vestal Virgins were the only exceptions to the rule that the general populace must step aside and offer whatever courtesies the approaching rank called for. The lictors were required to lower their fasces before any magistrate superior to the one they served; that it was military as well as civil is borne out by Pompey's gesture of respect toward Metellus, who was marching to meet him in order to bolster the Roman efforts in the Sertorian campaign in Spain. Plutarch describes how Pompey rode to greet his superior (Metellus was of consular rank) and ordered his lictors to lower their fasces. It is an interesting sidelight that Metellus graciously declined the honor.

Under certain circumstances a consul himself was outranked, in a sense. Elected by the people, he became an instrument of their will and therefore subject to them, a peculiar reversal of position not lost on one of the Republic's first consuls, Publius Valerius, who found himself ruling alone after the sudden death in battle of his colleague, Lucius Junius Brutus. Suspected unjustly of aspiring to establish himself as a king (the Republic was less than a year old at this point, and understandably touchy on the subject), he did his best to prove the rumor wrong. Calling the citizenry together, he ordered his lictors to lower their fasces in deference to the people, conveying by gesture that the real power

of government belonged to them, not to him.

Descriptions of the various ceremonies and functions at which the lictors were present seems to indicate that their attire more or less matched that of the magistrate they served. Inside the city, it was the toga; outside, accompanying an official to battle, it was the red military cloak. In a triumphal procession, when they preceded the chariot of the victorious general they served, they too wore a wreath.



Reconstructed from figures on Trajan's Arch at Benevento, this modern statue of an early second century lictor is on exhibit in the Museum of Roman Civilization. The arch, built in 114 A.D. to commemmorate the completion of his new road to Brundisium, has as its theme the Emperor's victories over the Dacians. The panel from which this composite lictor was formed is a scene showing Trajan distributing alimenta to the cities of Italy a doubtless symbolic representation of the support he gave to a program introduced by Nerva to encourage marriage and bolster the sagging birthrate. It consisted of gifts of money, food, fuel, and other necessities to parents of dependent children, and in this case may have been a bonus from the spoils of the wars. (Statue: World of Ancient Rome, Giannelli, p. 132; Trajan's Arch: Civilization of Rome, Dudley, Fig. 23.)

There were certain notable exceptions to the usual rules governing the fasces. At a funeral, the insignia of the departed magistrate were carried reversed, like his arms, behind the bier. Tacitus describes the funeral of Germanicus vividly, noting that tribunes and centurions carried his ashes behind undecorated standards and reversed fasces. On the day that these ashes were placed in the Mausoleum of Augustus, magistrates appeared for the occasion without their badges of office. This restriction on carrying the fasces in public occurred also

as a part of a religious celebration held toward the end of February each year, from the 13th to the 21st of the month. It was called the Festival of Parentalia, and must have been held outdoors, since all the temples were closed during this period.

The Empire produced two more varieties of standards. One of these, the first chronologically, was the labarum, an exalted form of the vexillum. This became an Imperial standard as early as the reign of Tiberius: the colony of Caesar-Augusta dedicated a coin to him with this form of ensign on it. It was a square banner of purple, bordered with a fringe of gold, and attached to the cross-piece on the upper end of a long spear. On the banner itself an eagle was either painted or embroidered in gold. Like the modern general-officers' flag, with its red field and white stars of rank, the purple Imperial banner signified the actual presence of the Emperor at the head of the army. Both relate to the man, not the service.

Constantine the Great is responsible for the final creative touch on Roman standards. When he embraced Christianity, he incorporated symbols of the faith into the military insignia, particularly the labarum. The banner portion was moved down sufficiently from the top of the staff to make room above the cross-piece for a crown of gold, set with gems and marked with the monogram of Christ: the Greek letters X and P, joined together. From the arms of the cross-bar hung the purple banner, but instead of the usual Roman eagle there was another monogram of Christ. Between the crown and the banner Constantine inserted either his own bust or those of his children. Because of its intrinsic value, the Emperor selected a picked body of fifty guards, called Labariferi, whose sole duty was to carry and protect this sacred standard. Its position, when the Emperor was leading the troops, was at the head of the army.

Coins showing these banners with the Christian symbols are found among the issues of Constantine I and his successors. There is a question, however, of whether these last standards qualify as insignia of the legions. When Rome ceased to be even a token democracy, and when the armed forces ceased to be composed of Romans, it becomes difficult to equate the resulting barbaric troops with the old legions. If a cut-off date were to be established, it might coincide with the arrival of the Emperor Diocletian, who is viewed by individual historians in various lights. Some hail him as a great reformer, a redeemer of law and order, and give him credit for prolonging the decline of the Empire (faint praise!). Others, of a less charitable nature, condemn him outright. James Henry Breasted labels him flatly as a despot, an absolute monarch who stripped Rome of her last vestiges of democratic

rights. Theodor Mommsen, commenting regretfully on the fate of the legions, says that Diocletian's use of the barbaric troops, which finished the old army, seemed to stem from the Emperor's admiration for these barbarians, which rose "more highly in proportion as they differed the more in nationality, organization, and spirit from the old Roman legions."

An obituary for one of the greatest armies ever to take the field might well include the date 284 A.D. — the year of the ascension of Diocletian, "The Invincible Sun-God."

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#### APPENDIX I

This is a summary of the various symbols found on the standards, combined with whatever explanations were available. The figures are taken from coins whenever possible, though a few "artists' interpretations" are included, like SPQR.

As a key to evaluating these explanations, the flat statements can be backed by references (ancient and modern); the "may be's" and "possibly's" are near certainties but still guesses and could be proved wrong; and "unidentified" is just that — unknown.

With these limiting qualifications, it is still hoped that the information contained here will be of some assistance to those who know even less and wish to learn something, at least, about standards.

To be continued.

# COINS AND ARTIFACTS

### A PRICE LIST OF ARTICLES FOR SALE

#### **TERMS**

All of the coins and artifacts for sale in this catalogue are guaranteed to be genuine and as described. The grading of all items is very conservative. Coins are sent on a five day approval basis. Orders with accompanying payments (and alternate selections) are preferred, and postal charges will not be affixed to all such orders over \$10.00. (Orders for less than

this amount, please add \$ .50 for postage and handling.) California residents, please add the appropriate sales tax.

Coins preceded by an asterisk (\*) are illustrated on the plates. Please note that the illustrations of the artifacts are not according to scale. See text description for sizes.

#### REFERENCE BOOK ABBREVIATIONS

Anz. B.M.C.	<ul><li>= Anzani, Numismatica Axumita</li><li>= British Museum Catalogues</li></ul>	Pet. R.	<ul><li>Petrowicz, Arsaciden-Munzen</li><li>Ratto, Monnaies Byzantine</li></ul>
Bab.	= Babelon, Traite de Monnaies Grecques et Romaines; Rois des Syria	Reif. R.I.C.	= Reifenberg, Ancient Jewish Coins = Roman Imperial Coinage
Bed.	= Bedoukian, Coinage of Cicilian Armenia	S.	= Sear, Roman Coins and Their Values
Bel.	= Bellinger, The Syrian Tetradrachms of Caracalla and Macrinus	Svor.	= Svoronos, Les Monnaies D'Athenes; Nu- mismatique de la Crete
C.	= Cohen, Monnaies Frappees sous L'Empire Romain	SNG	Ancienne; Die Munzen der Ptolemaer = Sylloge Numorum Graecorum
Fr.	= Friedberg, Gold Coins of the World	Syd.	= Sydenham, The Roman Republican Coinage; Coinage of Caesarea in Cappadocia
G.	= Gardner, The Coinage of Parthia	T.	= de la Tour, Atlas de Monnaies Gauloises
M.	= Muller, Numismatiques D' Alexandre Le Grand	V. Wr.	= Vaccaro, Le Monete di Aksum = Wruck, Die Syrische Provinzialpragung
N.	= North, English Hammered Coins		von Augustus bis Traian

#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

AE	= base metal; AE25 or 25 mm = base metal coin of 25 millimeters in diameter;	F	= fine; VG = very good; G = good; fair (poorest condition listed)
	AE1-4 = size of diameter of flan	VF/F	= obverse of coin is very fine, reverse fine
AR	= silver; AV = gold; EL = electrum; Bil = billon	std.	= seated; stg. = standing; hd. = head; r. = right; l. = left.
4dr	= tetradrachm; den = denarius; sest = ses-	RR	= very rare
	tertius; dup = dupondius	C.	= circa
obv	= obverse; Rx = reverse; / = reverse		
FDC	= fleur de coin or coin in mint state	c/m	= counter mark
EF	= extremely fine or superb	w/	= with
		gm	= gram
VF	= very fine; VF+ = nice very fine, not		
	quite extremely fine	wt.	= weight

#### CONTORNIATES

These rare and interesting medallions, struck with the obverse busts of such figures as Alexander, Nero and Trajan, and with fascinating reverses depicting mythological and circus scenes, form one of the most important numismatic developments of the Late Empire. They were begun most likely in the reign of Constantine the Great and continue to be issued down to Valentinian III in the mid-5th century. The majority of contorniates fall into two distinct periods: from 356-394 A.D., and from 395 to 440 A.D. Although the question of their uses is a very debatable matter, it is generally agreed that they were not used as "money", and were not struck by the government, but by private indivi-

duals. It is most likely that they were used as "prizes" for games in the Circus, as evidenced both by the reverse types which emphasize the various contests, and by the particular emperors whose portraits graced the obverse of these medallions. Both Nero and Trajan are particularly popular in this respect, and they are both noted for an avid interest in the Circus. Below is an offering of nine of these contorniates, including one "proto-contorniate," which may have served as a model for these later medals. The best work on these curiosities is A. Alfoldi, *Die Contorniaten*, 1943, in which a large number of contorniates is listed and described.

\*C1. PHILIP I, 244-249 A.D., proto-contorniate. Laur. bust of Philip r./Fides stg. holding standards. As RIC 172a. The edges have been hammered to fit into a military standard. Interesting and rare; sharp EF. . . 225.00

\*C2. CONSTANTINOPOLIS, struck 330-356 A.D. Helmeted bust of Constantinopolis 1., engraved leaf at left/RESTITVTOR REIP., Emperor stg. raising Constantinopolis, captive at feet. See Alfoldi, Pl. II, 3 - THE SAME COIN. Very rare and one of the earliest examples of Contorniates known. VF+, a lovely piece . . . . 1000.00

\*C3. NERO, struck 356-394 A.D. Bust of young Nero r., engraved E to right/LAVRIN, male figure stg. 1. at pipe organ. Alfoldi XXXI, 2. Rare and fine. . . . 250.00

\*C4. NERO, struck 356-394 A.D., Bust of adolescent Nero r./Female goddess std. on couch, serpent rising to 1. Alf. XIX, 2. Some obverse corrosion at portrait, thus only VG/F+ - a sharp reverse . . . . . . . . . . 175.00

\*C5. NERO, struck 356-394 A.D. Bust of Nero r./
Emperor on horseback slaying enemy. Alf. XXVII, 2.
Engraved leaf and cross to right of Nero's bust. A very
nice example with good detail. Nearly VF/F... 300.00

\*C7. ANONYMOUS, struck 395-440 A.D., Nude male bust from the waist/Horse to r., looking back. Alf. LIV, 12. A scarce variety, rarely seen. Nearly VF/VG 225.00

\*C8. ALEXANDER THE GREAT VARIETY, struck 394-440 A.D. Bust of Herakles 1. in lion's skin and holding club/S C., Rome std. on rock. Alf. LIV, 14 - THE SAME COIN. Rare and VF/F. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 275.00

\*C9. NERO, struck 394-440 A.D., probably under Honorius. Bust of young Nero r./EX FIMVS MIR-ANDVS, four horse chariot facing. Alf. LXV, 18 - THE SAME COIN. This is one of the finest contorniates known. Superb condition and very rare . . . . . 1500.00

#### **GREEK SILVER**

- \*K1. SOUTH GAUL, Elusati, 1st century B.C., drachm (2.78 gm). Vestiges of head/Degraded pegasus 1. Forrer 533, pl. VI. An excellent specimen of this type, EF+ 185.00

- \*K4. BRUTTIUM, Croton, c. 515-500 B.C., stater (7.80 gm). Tripod-lebes, crab in field/similar incuse, but with lyre in relief. Babelon pl. 69, 10. Archaic style and bold strike; a very rare and attractive coin, EF.... 675.00

- \*K5. —, Stater (7.58 gm) c. 420 B.C. Eagle raising its wings/QPO, tripod. BMC 74. Lovely style, nearly VF
- \*K7. —, Messana, c. 475 B.C., tetradrachm (17.0 gm). Biga of mules/MEΣΣΕΙΟΝ, hare running r. BMC 11. F+/F, a pleasing coin of nice style. . . . . . . . 200.00

- \*K13. —, Tetradrachm (17.20 gm) Similar type as above. M. 1338. Damascus mint, ram symbol. Nice style and nearly EF. (See Plate XXXVII) . . . . . . . 125.00
- \*K14. —, Demetrius Poliorcetes, 306-283 B.C., tetradrachm (17.12 gm) Prow of galley 1. on which stands Nike/BAΣIΛΕΩΣ ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙΟΥ, Poseidon stg. 1. weilding trident. Newell 17. Nearly VF, a very pleasing example of a very rare coin . . . . . . . . . . . . 800.00
- \*K15. ISLANDS OF THRACE, Thasos, 465-411 B.C., stater (9.25 gm) Satyr attacking nymph/Mill sail incuse. BMC 32. Only fine, but an attractive coin, and rare 350.00

- \*K18. THESSALY, Larissa, before 450 B.C., drachm (5.97 gm) Youth wrestling bull r., countermark K off flan/ΛΑΡΙΣΑΙ, horse galloping r. BMC 33. VF+/VF, a lovely coin and sharp strike . . . . . . . . . 175.00



*K19. CORCYRA, 450-400 B.C., stater (10.89 gm) Cow to r., suckling calf/double stellate pattern. Cf. BMC 66. Die crack, otherwise VF90.00	*K36. Herak squar
*K20. —, 1/2 stater (4.27 gm) Head of Dionysius r./ Pegasus r. BMC 351. F+, a flat strike and dark toning 50.00	Britis Rare **
*K21. ACARNANIA, Leucas, c. 470 B.C., stater (8.1 gm) Pegasus flying 1./Head of Athena in Corinthian helmet r.	(4.11 Ather
BMC 1. VF, archaic style; a rare coin	*K38. drach legend
and VF; an attractive coin of nice style 300.00 *K23. —, 440-430 B.C., tetradrachm (17.19 gm) Similar type as above. BMC 62. Brett 1090. A drop of metal on Athena's cheek, otherwise, nearly EF and nice style	*K39. 83-69 Arme Antio
300.00 *K24. —, 180/179 B.C., new style drachm (4.16 gm)	coin a *K40.
Helmeted head of Athena r./Owl on amphora. Thompson 149, 1 - the same coin! Rare and nice VF+ . 110.00 *K25. —, c. 480 B.C., tetradrachm (17.01 gm) Similar	gm)   ANO "alter
type, but more archaic type. Some light scratches at Athena's nose, otherwise nearly EF 650.00  *K26. AEGINA, c. 500 B.C., stater (12.01 gm) Sea tortoise/Incuse Unpublished variety. Nice VE	with *K41. Head
*K27. SICYONIA, Sicyon, 400-323 B.C., didrachm (11. 47 gm) Chimera to 1./Dove in wreath. Lockett 2326.	verse.
Fine and nice style	*K42. Galler stag.
64 gm) Head of Artemis Britomartis r./Herakles attacking 1. BMC 3. Only fine, but a very rare coin. Ex British Museum Collection	rare *K43.
*K29. —, Gortyna, 431-300 B.C., didrachm (11.38 gm) Europa std. in tree/Bull looking back. Overstruck on a	foot/obver
coin of Cyrene (Hermes/Silphium). Svor. 58. Usual weakness, and thus only VG, but very rare 200.00 *K30. —, Knossos, c. 550 B.C., stater (11.8 gm) Laby-	*K44. slight
rinth/Man running 1. This is the earliest issue portraying the labyrinth, and it is struck as a reverse incuse. F/VG.	*K45. *K46. (13.1
a very rare coin and missing from most collections of Greek silver coins	king. * <b>K4</b> 7. (13.7
(9.77 gm) Head of Dionysius 1./ΔΙΟΝΥΣΙΟΥ ΤΙΜΟΘΕ, Herakles attaching spear to trophy. BMC 27. Nearly VF	Eagle
and scarce	*K48. Heral Mulle
makeles in field. Divic 34. Divilgated fiall, Er 123.00	

\_\_\_\_, Stater (10.80 gm) Similar type, only F/EF

-, Side, c. 360 B.C., stater (10.48 gm) Athena

CILICIA, Tarsus, 378-372 B.C., stater (9.89 gm) Baaltars std. on diphros/Datames and Ana stg. facing,

Parthenos std. 1./Apollo stg. 1. with laurel branch and bow. BMC 15v. A weak strike on the obverse, but a very

sharp and attractive reverse, thus, F+/VF+ . . . . 250.00

thymiaterion between. BMC 35. Satrap: Datames. Weak

strike on obverse, but very sharp reverse, thus, VF/EF

\*K35.

CYPRUS, Citium, 450-420 B.C., stater (10.39 gm) kles advancing r./Lion attacking stag in incuse re. Obverse is weakly struck, but sharp reverse. Ex sh Museum Collection; see pl., - THE SAME COIN CAPPADOCIA, Ariathes IX, 99-87 B.C., drachm I gm), Head of king r./ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΑΡΙΑΡΑΘΟΥ. ena stg. 1. BMC 4. Nearly VF and scarce. . . 55.00 -, Ariathes VI, 125-111 B.C., barbaric issue hm (2.98 gm). Laur. head r./Athena, barbarized KINGDOM OF SYRIA, Tigranes of Armenia, 9 B.C., tetradrachm (15.38 gm) Head of king r. in enian tiara/BA $\Sigma$ I $\Lambda$ E $\Omega$  $\Sigma$  TI $\Gamma$ PANO $\Upsilon$ , Tyche of och std. r. on rock, Orontes swimming. A very rare and nearly VF. BMC 2-5. . . . . . . . . . . 500.00 -, Philippus, 92-83 B.C., tetradrachm (15.89 Head of king r./ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ ΕΠΙΦ-ΟΥΕ ΦΙΛΛΑΔΕΛΦΟΥ, Zeus std. 1. BMC 1. An ernate 30 pieces of silver", and scarce. Sharp EF PHOENICIA, Aradus, c. 370 B.C., stater (10.5 gm) d of male diety r./Galley. Countermark "eye" on obe. BMC 18. Rough flan, otherwise nice fine and rare

—, Byblus, c. 350 B.C., stater (11.87 gm) Azbaal. ey with hoplites, hippocamp below/Lion attacking a Unpublished variety. Dark toning, fine and very -, Sidon, Strato I, 370-358 B.C., double shekel

95 gm) King in biga, Egyptian king following on /Galley 1. BMC 14-17. Unusually sharp strike on erse for this issue, thus VF+/F and very rare 450.00

-, A similar piece (25.61 gm), only VF and -, Another (23.94 gm), only fair . . . . 100.00

PARTHIA, Vardanes II, 55-58 A.D., tetradrachm 11 gm) Laur. bust of king 1./Tyche stg. before std. . Sellwood 69/6-7. Fine and rare . . . . . . . 60.00

EGYPT, Ptolemy VI, 181-146 B.C., tetradrachm 75 gm) Bust of king r./IITOLEMAIOΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ e stg. 1. Svor. LI, 1-5. Nearly EF and bold portrait 150.00

LIBYA, c. 200 B.C., didrachm (7.36 gm) Head of ikles 1./Lion walking r., Punic letters in exergue. Cf. er 349. Weak strike, thus only fine, but very rare 130.00

\*K49. ZEUGITANA, Carthage, 409-380 B.C., tetradrachm (17.58 gm) Forepart of horse r./Palm, punic letters beneath. Muller 5. About VF and very rare 775.00

#### MINIATURES FROM GAZA

During our last visit to Israel in May, 1972, we unexpectedly toured the famous Gaza strip. Just prior to this expedition my wife and I attended the International Association of Professional Numismatists Congress in Athens. Then we relaxed on a wonderful week-long tour of the

275.00

# PLATE XXXV



Greek Islands. But exciting things were in store for us. We landed in Israel approximately one hour before the horrible shoot-out at Lod Airport. Although we did not know about the tragedy until early the next morning, the event cast a shadow over our stay. Nevertheless, our Israeli host, who is quite an avid ancient coin "hunter", took us on a coinbuying trip to Gaza.

Neither my wife nor I knew what to expect. We were told the area was peaceful, but we both recalled the news flashes of terrorist bombings and certainly the previous day's incident at the airport was cause for some trepidation. Curiously only three points of interest need be mentioned here. The first was a "run-for-cover feeling" when a large truck nearby backfired. Our first thoughts were certainly more ominous than that.

The second interesting point was our tour of an old Jewish Synagogue located on a bluff overlooking the ancient Gaza harbor. The mosaic floor of the Roman period temple was maintained by an Arab who told us that parts of the floor were desecrated by Egyptian soldiers before the Six-Day War. The setting of the Synagogue plus the ancient crossroads atmosphere of the area leads to the third point of interest, and this point is numismatic.

The coins of Gaza are well known to numismatists. Curiously the coinages come from two distinctly different periods. Hoards of small silver issues from the Greek Period are occasionally found in the sands of Gaza. The bronze coins from Gaza are from the Roman Period. It is the tiny silver issues which concern us here because this is what I was able to buy and ultimately offer my readers.

What is particularly interesting about the silver coins found around Gaza is that they are invariably extremely small fractionals of issues either from Athens or Phoenicia. The coins sometimes carry the swastika-like mark of Gaza, but most of the issues give me the impression that they were imitated in the Gaza area and were not the products of home mints.

Obviously the proto-types for these coins entered the Gaza area via the port activities. Evidently small change was the mode of the day, and the Hellenic economy of the region was maintained by the types of small silver coins illustrated here and offered for sale. Certainly, considerable work ought to go into the study of these coins to determine whether only those with the symbols of Gaza can be determined as "native" to Gaza, or whether the greater proportion of mini-silver coins found in the Gaza area can be said to be "local imitations". Comments and suggestions from our readership is most welcome.

Serve a
*Z3. —, Similar (.02 gm) but flatter strike, perfectly
centered, dark tone
*Z4. —, Athenian Type, (.39 gm) Hd. of Athena r.,
mostly off flan/Owl, AOE, part of swastika in field. Un-
published type. VF
Z5. Gaza, type as above with symbol. (.65 gm) Square
flan, not well struck up. A crude issue 30.00
Z6. —, Similar to above but even cruder 20.00
*Z7. —, Same type but of less weight (.37 gm) EF
71
Z8. —, Similar but cruder. VG-Fine 20.00
,
,
Z10. —, Similar but cruder VG-Fine SPECIAL 12.00
Z11. —, Same type but weight only .03 gm Fine 25.00
Z12. Macedonian types, (.39 gm) Hd. of Herakles r./
Zeus enthroned. Good style, fine
A nice VF specimen 50.00
Z13. —, Similar (.39 gm) but barbaric, VF 35.00
*Z14. — (.50 gm) Hd. of Herakles r./Bow case and club
M in field. Rare, VF 100.00
Z15. —, Similar (.32 gm), bee? symbol. Obverse off
center, F/VF 60.00
Z16. Phoenician Types, Aradus 5th century, obol (.51
gm) Hd. of male deity to r./Galley. Babelon, Les
Perses Achemenides, pl. 22, 19. VG 15.00
Z17. Byblos, c. 374 B.C. 1/2 obol (.24 gm) Galley with
2 Hoplites/ Griffin, Babelon No. 1371. Rare, fair 15.00
*Z18. Straton, 374-362 B.C. tritemorion (.48 gm) Fort-
tress with 3 towers/The king stg. with bow; hd. of Bes
behind him. Bab. 1572; Rare and nice fine 75.00
Z19. Sidon, unknown king before 374 B.C. 1/30 stater
(.16 gm) Galley/King with bow in incuse. Bab. 1564.
Very rare, VF
*Z20. —, Tennes 362-350 B.C. 1/16 stater (.60 gm)
Galley, year 1/The king facing rampant lion. Bab. 1574.
Rare and VF
Z21. —, Straton II, 346-332 B.C. 1/16 stater (.59 gm)
as above. Bab. 1589. Fair 10.00; Fine 20.00;
A few nicely struck pieces in VF 50.00
(Babelon also states the probability that these types
were struck in Egypt under Bagaos 345-343 B.C.)  Z22. Tyre, 450-322 B.C. 1/16 stater (.48 gm) Hippo-
camp to left/Owl. Bab. 2004. Fair 20.00
Z23. Cilicia, Tarsus, 1/16 stater of type of Sidon (see
Z18-21) Bird between king and lion on reverse. Bab. VI,
16. Very rare and F+
*Z24. Seleucid Satraps, late 4th century. 1/2 obol (.29
gm) Baal std. 1./Lion to 1. Cf. Babelon VII, 8. Scarce
this size. See also lots for similar types not found in
Gaza. VG-F
Z25. Unidentifiable types, (.02 gm) Facing head/Fore-
part of horse. A fascinating, tiny piece. F+/EF . 45.00
Z26. —, (.14 gm) Archaic head r./Punch mark.F 20.00
Z27. —, (.09 gm) Helmeted head r./Eagle. F/VF 35.00
Z28. —, (.20 gm) Tunny fish/Ram's head 1. VG 25.00
Z29. —, (.29 gm) Horseman r./Std. figure r. VF 50.00
Z30. —, Miscellaneous specimens in fair-VG, the bal-
ance of the hoard. Special 8.00

## PLATE XXXVI





## BEGINNER'S BARGAINS

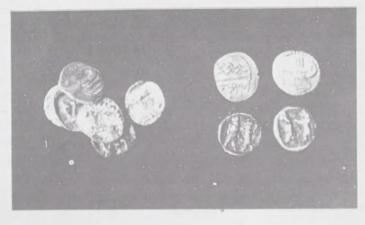
R1. AUGUSTUS, struck by Tiberius, 14-37 A.D., AE as Rad. bust 1./Large altar. C. 228. F	R24. SEPTIMIUS SEVERUS, 193-211 A.D., AR denarius. Laur. bust r./Victory flying 1. holding wreath and palm branch. Dark, VF+
Diad. bust r./Juno stg. 1., peacock at feet. C. 123. G 5.00 R14. FAUSTINA JR., d. 175 A.D., AR denarius. Bust r./Pudicitia stg. 1. with altar at feet. C. 184. VG 8.00 R15. FAUSTINA JR. d. 175 A.D., AR denarius. Diad. bust r./SAECVLI FELICIT, two children std. on throne.	R35. JULIA MAMAEA, d. 235, AR denarius. Dr. bust r./Juno stg. 1. with peacock. C. 35. EF 25.00 R36. JULIA MAMAEA, d. 235, AE sestertius. Diad. bust r./Felicitas stg. C. 21. VF 37.50 R37. MAXIMINUS I, 235-238, AE sestertius. Laur. head r./Pax stg. 1. C. 38. VG/G 13.00 R38. GORDIAN III, 238-244 A.D., AR denarius. Laur.
C. 190. VG+	head r./Securitas std. 1. C. 340. VF+
R18. COMMODUS, 177-192 A.D., AE dupondius. Rad. bust r./Libertas stg. 1. VG/Fair 8.00 R19. COMMODUS, 177-192 A.D., AE sestertius. Laur. bust r./Genius stg. 1., altar at feet. C. 174, RIC 561. Rough VF+, very small flan 15.00	R41. GORDIAN III, 238-244 A.D., AR antoninianus. Rad. bust r./Fides militum stg. 1. with standard. C. 86. VF+
R20. COMMODUS, 177-192 A.D., AR denarius. Laur. bust r./Commodus and Felicitas clasping hands. C. 120.	R43. OTACILIA SEVERA, 244-248 A.D., AR antoninianus. Diad. bust r./Pudicitia std. 1. RIC 123c. F+/VF 5.00
R21. CRISPINA, d. c. 182 A.D., AE sestertius. Bust r./ Laetitia stg. 1., holding rudder. C. 27. Scarce, G 10.00 R22. CLODIUS ALBINAS, 193-197 A.D., AE as. Bust	R44. OTACILIA SEVERA, 244-248 A.D., AE sestertius Diad. bust r./Concordia std. 1. C. 10, Large flan, VF/F 25.00
r./Felicitas stg. 1. C. 16. Fair 8.00  R23. SEPTIMIUS SEVERUS, 193-211 A.D., AR denarius. Laur. bust r./Victory flying 1. holding wreath over shield on base. C. 719. C. 1691. VF 8.00	R45. PHILIP II, 247-249 A.D., AE sestertius. Laur. bust r./Goat 1. Rare, VF+

## PLATE XXXVII



GAZA







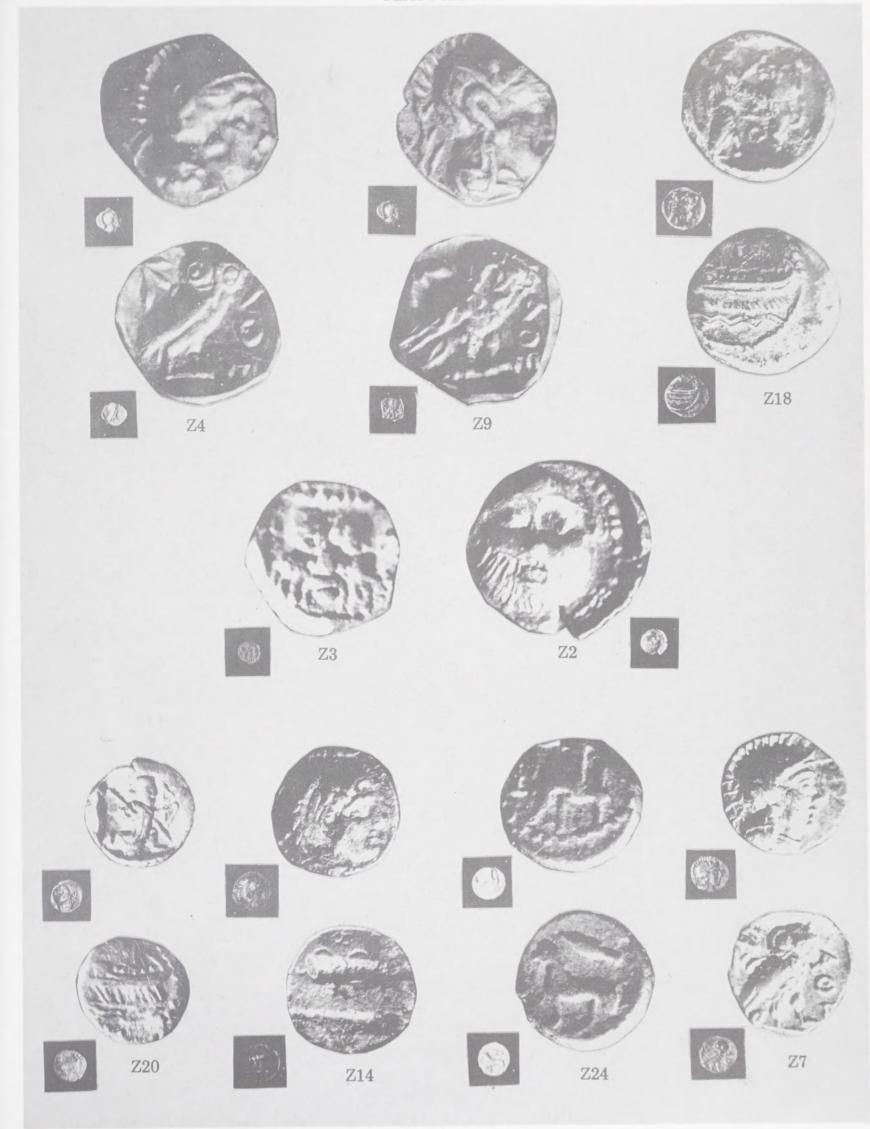
R47. TRAJAN DECIUS, 249-251 A.D., AR antonin-
ianus. Rad. bust r./Roma std. 1. holding small Victory.
EF
R48. TRAJAN DECIUS, 249-251 A.D., AE sestertius.
Laur. bust r./The two Pannoniae stg. side by side, hold-
ing standards. C. 87. F
R49. HERENNIA ETRUSCILLA, 249-251 A.D., AR
antoninianus. Diad. bust r./Pudicitia stg. 1. with sceptre.
C. 17. Good silver, about F 9.00
R50. HERENNIUS ETRUSCUS, 251 A.D., AR antonin-
ianus. Rad. bust r./Mercury stg. 1. holding purse and caduceus. C. 11. VF+
R51. HOSTILIAN, 249-251 A.D., AR antoninianus.
Rad. bust r./Sacrificial implements. C. 25. VG 15.00
R52. VOLUSIAN, 251-253 A.D., AR antoninianus. Rad
bust r./Salus stg. r. C. 118, RIC 184. VG+ 7.50
R53. TREBONIANUS GALLUS, 251-253, AR antonin-
ianus. Rad. bust r./Victory stg. 1. C. 128. EF 10.00
R54. VALERIAN, 253-260 A.D., antoninianus. Rad.
bust r./Mars stg. r. leaning on shield. C. 221. F/VG+
R55. GALLIENUS, 253-268 A.D., antoninianus. Rad.
bust r./Luna stg. r. holding long torch. VF+/F 5.00
R56. VALERIAN II, 253-255 A.D., Antoninianus. Rad.
bust r./Valerian std. 1. on eagle flying r. RIC 9. F 12.00
R57. VALERIAN II, 253-255 A.D., antoninianus. Rad.
bust r./Amalthean goat r. RIC 3. Scarce, VF 25.00
R58. POSTUMUS, 259-268 A.D., antoninianus. Rad.
bust r./Postumus stg. 1. holding globe and spear. C. 243.
VF+
R59. VICTORINUS, 268-270, AE antoninianus. Rad.
bust r./Salus stg. 1. feeding snake. C. 118. EF, ragged
flan 6.00
R60. TETRICUS I, 270-273 A.D., AE antoninianus.
Rad. bust r./Hilaritas stg. 1. C. 55. Ragged flan, hand-
some sharp portrait but otherwise a weak strike with die
break on reverse 5.50
R61. CLAUDIUS II GOTHICUS, 268-270 A.D., AE
antoninianus. Rad. bust r./Hercules stg. 1. leaning on
club. C. 137. VF, low relief 5.00
R62. QUINTILLUS, 270 A.D., AE antoninianus. Rad.
bust r./Concord stg. 1. holding standard and cornucopia.
C. 8. Light obverse corrosion and weak strike, F/VF
14.00
R63. SEVERINA, 270-275 A.D., AE as. Diad. bust r./
Juno stg. 1 with peacock at feet. C. 9. F+ and sharp.
Scarce
R64. PROBUS, 276-282 A.D., AE antoninianus. Rad.
bust 1., wearing imperial mantle and holding eagle-
tipped sceptre/Roma std. facing in temple of six col-
umns. C. 528. VF with silver coating almost intact 12.00
R65. CARUS, 282-283 A.D., AE antoninianus. Rad.
and cuir. bust r./Virtus stg. 1. leaning on shield and hold-
ing spear. C. 110. VG/Fair 4.00 R66. NUMERIAN, 283-284 A.D., AE antoninianus.
R66. NUMERIAN, 283-284 A.D., AE antoninianus. Rad. bust r./Annona stg. 1. C. 82, RIC 446. VF, silvered
15.00

R67. CARINUS, 283-285 A.D., AE antoninianus. Rad. bust r./Carinus stg. 1. receiving Victory on globe from Jupiter stg. r. C. 184, RIC 325. VF/VG, corrosion on reverse
bust r./Pax stg. 1.; in field, SP; in ex, C. Clausentum mint. RIC 35. VG with nice portrait, scarce 25.00 R70. MAXIMIANUS, 286-310 A.D., AE follis. Laur.
head r./Fides std. 1.; in ex. ST. EF/VF 12.00 R71. CARINUS, 283-285 A.D., AE antoninianus. Rad. and cuir. bust r./Emperor stg. 1., receiving Victory from
Jupiter stg. r. VF/F
r./Dioscuri stg. facing each other, each holding a horse. Ostia mint. RIC 35. VF+
mint. VF, silvered 6.00  R77. —, AE 3/4, commemorative struck 330-346 A.D.  Constantinopolis. Helmeted bust 1./Victory stg. 1. on prow. Antioch mint. Sear 3790. VF 6.00  R78. MAXIMINUS II DAZA, 307-314 A.D., AE follis.  Laur. head r./Genius stg. 1. Alexandria mint. About VF
8.00 R79. LICINIUS I, 308-324 A.D., AE 3. Laur. and cuir. bust r./Genius stg. 1. VF 5.00

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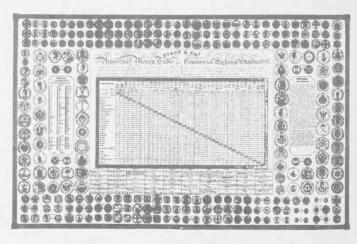
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